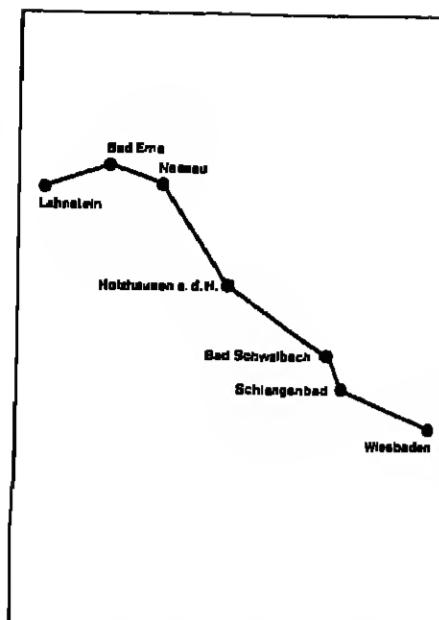


# Routes to tour in Germany

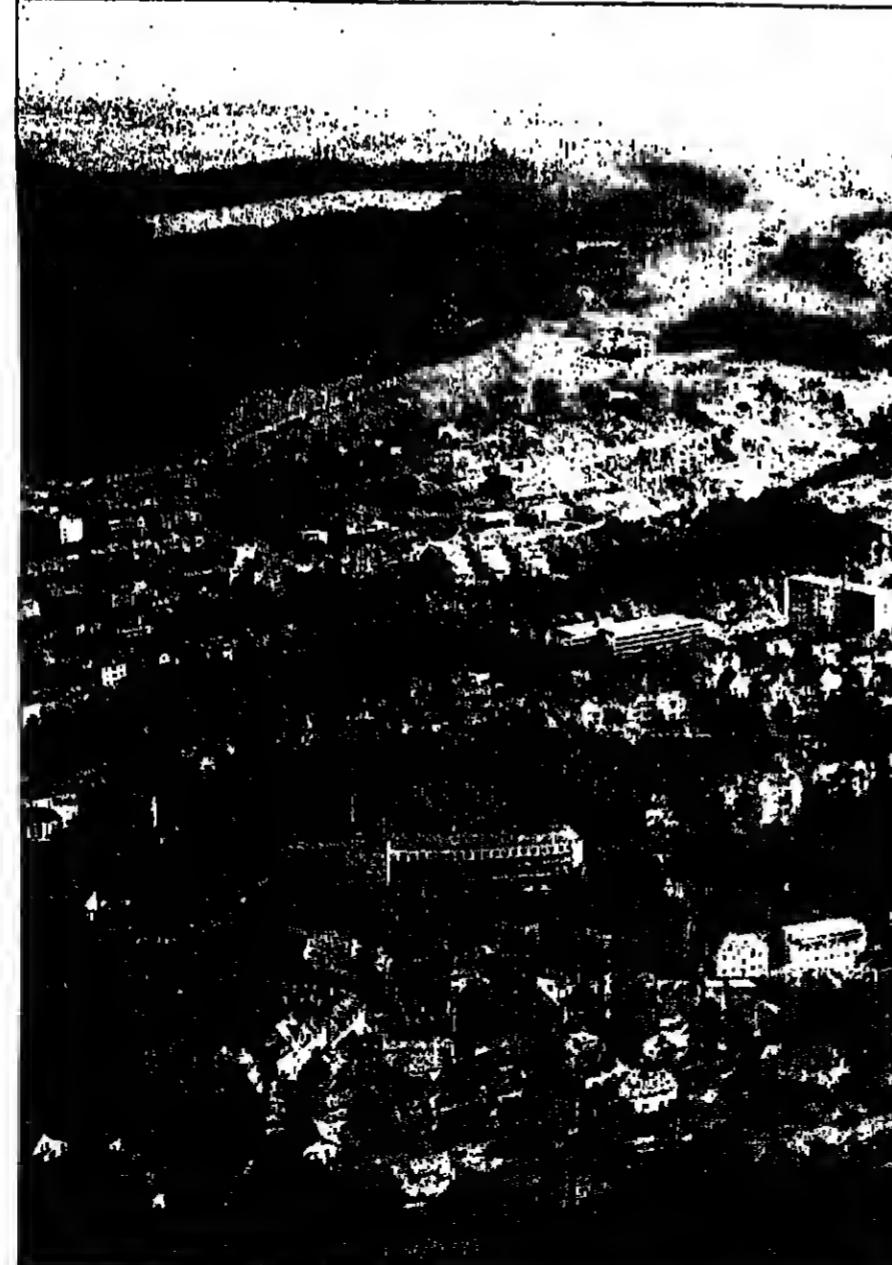
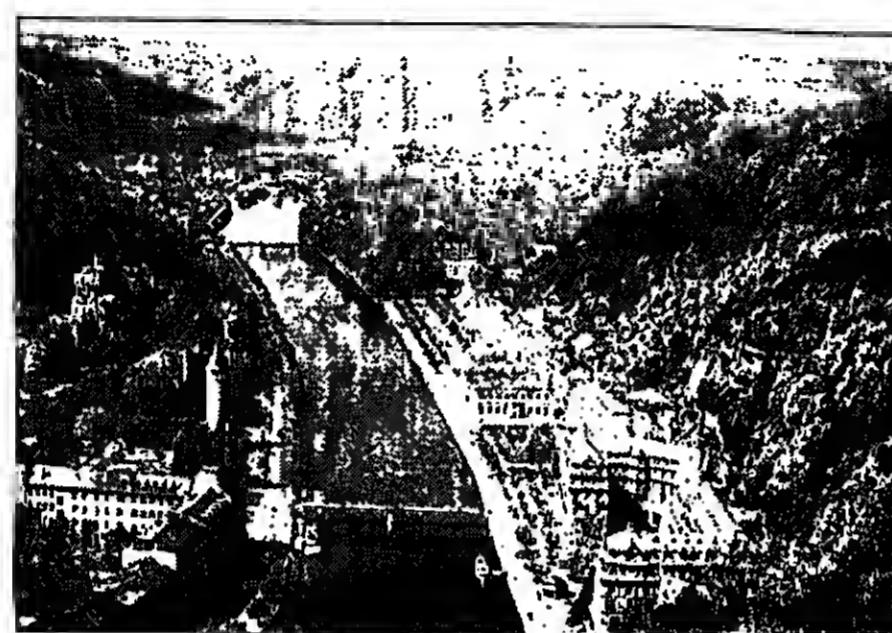


German roads will get you there, say to spas and health resorts spread not all over the country but along a route easily travelled and scenically attractive. From Lahnstein, opposite Koblenz, the Spa Route runs along the wooded chain of hills that border the Rhine valley. Health cures in these resorts are particularly successful in dealing with rheumatism and gynaecological disorders and cardiac and circulatory complaints. Even if you haven't enough time to take a full course of treatment, you ought to take a look at a few pump rooms and sanatoriums. In Bad Ems you must not miss the historic inn known as the *Wirtshaus an der Lahn*. In Bad Schwalbach see for yourself the magnificent *Kursaal*. Take a walk round the Kurpark in Wiesbaden and see the city's casino. Elegant Wiesbaden dates back to the late 19th century Wilhelminian era.

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# The German Tribune

Hamburg, 19 April 1987  
Twenty-sixth year - No. 1270 - By air

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## The Spa Route

### Gorbachov basks in glare of East Bloc suspicion

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The Soviet Union's allies in Eastern Europe have viewed with great misgiving what has gone on in Moscow since Mr Gorbachov assumed office.

The CPSU general secretary's reform policy is universally disliked with the partial exception of Poland, where General Jaruzelski says he is following the new course with bated breath.

Yet he too faces difficulties with dogmatic Communist Party officials.

President Ceausescu of Romania is one of the sternest critics of the new look Soviet policy.

The Hungarians are the most closely allied to the substance of Soviet reforms and feel themselves vindicated to some extent, but even they are reluctant to openly endorse them.

That leaves Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and East Germany. In Prague, after open disputes between influential Party leaders such as Jiri Strangil and Vasil Bilink, Mr Husak has at least verbally sided with the Soviet leader. Yet the

#### IN THIS ISSUE

HOME AFFAIRS  
Hesse poll turns a political tact of ill on its head

CIVIL LAW  
Giri, 7, sue governments over Chernobyl

MEDICINE  
Hope for Aids vaccine reported

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS  
Author argues that the Romans, not the Jews, killed Jesus Christ

The next edition of  
THE GERMAN TRIBUNE  
will be on 3 May

brief postponement of Mr Gorbachov's visit was a clear pointer that all was not well. That is certainly true of East Germany, where no mention at all is made of the Soviet reform policy.

For the East German Communist Party, the SED, and the media it controls the Soviet reform course is virtually taboo.

Well-known concepts such as democratisation, restructuring or *glasnost*, which means transparency and openness, are simply not mentioned.

They don't exist — neither in political terminology nor in the media.

Instead East Germany's propaganda machinery has been geared to the argu-

ment that East Germany's Soviet friends have every reason to put their own house in order and revamp the Soviet economy and administration.

East Germany, for its part is said to have little occasion to model itself on any new ideas as long as it is so far ahead of other East Bloc countries in economic output and living standards as it has been for so long.

Then comes the standard argument advanced by all who hold orthodox views in the East Bloc: that domestic peace and quiet, and consolidation of the state, are first needed.

Then, and then only, can many other points be considered. Conditions must be stabilised, not restricted; that, at least, is the overriding tenor of official opinion in East Berlin.

East Berlin leader Erich Honecker and his henchmen have chosen to be fairly brash on this point, but they can afford it. First, they are not alone in feeling the way they do. Second, they are better aware than any Western observers of the balance of power in the Kremlin.

So it may reasonably be inferred that Party leaders in the smaller Warsaw Pact countries choose to behave in such an obstinate manner they clearly have good reasons for assuming that this attitude will not be to their disadvantage.

They are plainly banking on Soviet opposition to Mr Gorbachov's reform plans — and the Soviet Party leader and his supporters frankly admit that opposition exists.

The degree of obstinacy shown by

#### Soviet delegation arrives

Soviet Deputy Premier Alexei Antonov (left) is welcomed to Bonn by Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Mr Antonov headed a Soviet trade delegation. (See page 7) (Photo: WIR/KA)

smaller East Bloc states in refusing to acclaimed and emulate the Soviet reforms is in inverse proportion to the strength or weakness of Mr Gorbachov's position.

This being so, a cautious assessment must be made of his political support.

This assessment inflates with number of observations on the progress of domestic reform in the Soviet Union, which has been largely sluggish despite the attention paid in the West in individual moves by the new leadership in home and foreign affairs and in handling dissidents.

Former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, a shrewd observer of world affairs, returned from his latest visit to Soviet capital feeling distinctly pessimistic. That ought to be enough to make people who feel inclined to rely unconditionally on Mr Gorbachov's foreign and security policy stop and think.

As for the East Bloc leaders, they have historic experience of reforms to the Soviet system that counsel both scepticism and a degree of opposition.

Mr Gorbachov himself has referred to the text-book example, Mr Khrushchev, whose neck, he said, had been broken by the Party machine — a fate some would like to see come his, Gorbachov's, way too.

Nikita Khrushchev proposed introducing "rotation" of leading Party and government officials to loosen up the system.

Mr Gorbachov hopes to achieve the same objective by nominating several candidates and holding free elections for Party appointments at lower levels and for state enterprises and the administration.

This is the real handicap to effective reform and the true bone of contention with both domestic opponents and fraternal Party leaders.

Mr Gorbachov has failed to gain the Soviet central committee's approval for his election plans. That most be particularly painful for him, as they would have been the crucial lever in the proposed restructuring of the sluggish Soviet economy and officialdom.

If Mr Gorbachov fails to get his own way on this point he can wave goodbye to most of his other plans.

History has often been marked by tragedy at such crossroads. The stumbling block is always the same: the privileged don't want to relinquish any of their privileges.

Countless reforms and reformers have come to grief over this point in the course of history. *Fritz Ulrich Fock* (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 8 April 1987)

Foreign Ministers of the 11 European Community members of Nato have endorsed the "zero option" proposal to withdraw all US and Soviet medium-range missiles from Europe.

At an informal gathering of Foreign Ministers in a former monastery near Turnhout, Belgium, the 11 also agreed, said German delegation members, that there was a continuing need for an "appropriate deterrent" to war of any kind in Europe.

A US-Soviet agreement on intermediate nuclear forces must also be followed by immediate negotiations on shorter-range missiles.

This agreement is felt to be significant because the zero option has been endorsed by France as well.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe appears to have briefed his colleagues on Mrs Thatcher's talks with Mr Gorbachov in Moscow.

During the two days of talks Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German Foreign

Frankfurter Rundschau

Minister, repeated his call for the Council of Ministers to authorise the European Commission at the end of April to enter into negotiations on a cooperation agreement between the European Community and Hungary.

The go-ahead has long been on the cards but a number of Community countries are still reluctant to meet Hungarian requests for greater access to the Common Market for Hungarian exports.

Alongside negotiations in progress with Romania and Czechoslovakia the talks with Hungary would, it was said, be an important prerequisite for a joint declaration by the European Community and the Council for Mutual Economic

Continued on page 3

## ■ WORLD AFFAIRS

## Lessons of history and the changing roles of Israel and Germany

The writer, Michael Wolffsohn, is a lecturer in history at the Bundeswehr University in Munich.

**D**emocracy in Germany? Is it possible?" was a 1952 headline in the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz*. It was typical of how Israel saw Germany, at least in the early days.

In those days Israel's role was undisputedly that of the master where matters of political morality were concerned. Germany, the pupil, was taught — and learned — its lessons.

Germans today — some Germans, that is — strongly object to this treatment. They feel 40 years have been enough. Germans ought to step out of the shadow of the past, divest themselves of their penitential robes and walk tall.

Repetition of demands such as these in no way bears out the erroneous assumption that the Federal Republic of Germany walks with its head bowed or bent. It has long ceased to do so.

Many post-war Germans have long set aside the role originally intended for them (and at times voluntarily performed), that of the contrite and remorseful pupil.

Instead they have taken to giving the Israelis advice, both on everyday political issues and, in particular, on territorial affairs.

They recommend what are termed models for a solution to the conflict between the Palestinians and Israel. They offer unsolicited moral and political advice; one might almost say "lessons."

This reversal of roles was partly made possible by Israel donning the robe of the ugly occupying power in 1967.

Other factors were the feeling, shared by many Germans, that they counted for something in world affairs again and the student unrest ("class of '68") and regeneration with their moral diatribes in Israel's direction.

Last but not least, Bonn was increasingly in demand as a party to world affairs. Could the Federal Republic be said to walk with its head bowed?

Israeli politicians as a class has failed to fully appreciate or approve these factors, let alone the consequences of this reversal of roles.

The international role of the two countries has undergone fundamental change even though the role that Jerusalem once acted as an intermediary between Bonn and Washington is only a rumour.

It is a tale often told in connection with the reparations agreement. But although it may improve with the telling and sound most convincing, it still suffers from the drawback that it is, purely and simply, untrue.

Israel never needed, was never able and never wanted or was expected to perform the role of a political go-between.

Even in the reparations period it was clear that Washington was much more important to West Germany than Israel was.

Bonn had no need of Israeli services to improve its standing with the United States. Bonn's decision to go ahead with reparations payments to Israel was reached despite US views rather than because of them.

Bonn has no part to play as a mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict, although there is no lack of would-be mediators of all party-political persuasions in the Federal Republic.

In everyday politics, as against the "lower depths" of history and psychology, another reversal of roles has occurred over the years that might be characterised by the question: "Who is courting whom?"

The Federal Republic is well suited as a behind-the-scenes matchmaker for the Western alliance. It is on good terms with both Israel and the Arab world.

By virtue of "traditional German-Arab friendship" Bonn stands a better chance of making contacts in this role than any kind.

For fear that the Arab states might impose restrictions on trade with the Federal Republic or upgrade relations with the GDR Bonn in turn showed limited enthusiasm about Israeli efforts, clearly apparent from 1956/57, to negotiate the establishment of diplomatic ties.

Yet Bonn remained keen to help Israel. From 1957 it bought arms from and later exported arms to Israel.

This was done unofficially, with a view to squaring the circle. The aim was to maintain cordial, but not diplomatic, relations with Israel.

Bonn's links with Moscow have been known to pay dividends for Israel. The Federal government lent a hand in securing the release of the Soviet dissident Anatoli Shcharansky in 1985, for instance.

Bonn may, of course, at times have been sorely tempted to play this part, especially in the European Community context.

There has been no change in the basic configuration since 1955. Israel remains the supplicant. So can the Germans really be said to wear penitential robes?

The supplicant's role is one extreme, the avenger's another. Immediately after the Second World War there seemed to be a distinct possibility of both many Jews and many Gentiles boycotting German goods.

Yet "Made in Germany" soon regained prestige and quality status and was no longer a mark of Cain.

In the initial post-war period Germany this is merely the politicized social result of the re-education policy, strongly supported by Jews and Israelis after the war.

The reversal of roles on the German-Jewish-Israeli stage has succeeded superbly, if not altogether voluntarily.

But the lesson has now been learned and Germans today definitely walk tall.

One gratifying lesson can be learned from history. In this connection, it is that no one protagonist can always play the same part, neither on the stage nor in world affairs. How annoying, yet what a relief!

Michael Wolffsohn  
Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 6 April 1987

The role of an occupying power is something new for Israel and for the Jewish people. Hardly in keeping with their traditional image, it is more attuned to that of the Ugly German — at least from 1939 to 1945.

This unaccustomed and unusual role for Israel brings to light another reversal of roles in German-Israeli relations, that of the user of force, the side that resorts to violence.

Germany's traditional foreign policy image has frequently been in keeping with a dictum often quoted in the Kaiser's days: *"Viel Feind, viel Ehr"* (The

more enemies you have, the more does you credit).

The emphasis was on a policy of strength. This emphasis underwent fundamental change in West Germany after the Second World War.

Colloquial political scientist Hans-Joachim Schwarz coined a superb and convincing tag for the Federal Republic: preference for self-restraint in foreign policy.

A country that used to be obscure with power, he wrote, came to foreign power.

It was an entirely different matter Israel, where the image and the acting of the defenceless, weak and gentle underwent a change of its own.

Zionism sought to create a "new" willing and able to defend himself succeeded.

This historically understandable reversal of roles demonstrates yet again how Germans and Israelis have done better than come closer together.

The Israelis carefully tend and nurture their image of being sabras, a kind of prickly cactus, and that's just what they're like: prickly, coarse, or at least far from gentle.

In Germany the emphasis is only gentle. Even conservatives would prefer to see a "gentle republic."

So the political chemistry of German and Israeli society has undergone fundamental changes, making communications more difficult both as a matter of principle and on day-to-day events.

While Germans became "softies" Israelis came to be seen as wearing the "steel helmet" that used to be a Prussian attribute.

Gone are the days when the Germans were coarse and the Jews were soft. The change is clearly due to lessons learned from history by both sides.

The Germans have come to realize that the use of force can lead to catastrophes for themselves and others. Jews and Israelis have realized that non-violence means being defenceless and being defenceless is tantamount to a death sentence.

There is a certain irony about Israel today complaining about the Germans having gone soft and Germans complaining about the rough and ready Israelis.

Yet it must be borne in mind that Germany this is merely the politicized social result of the re-education policy, strongly supported by Jews and Israelis after the war.

The reversal of roles on the German-Jewish-Israeli stage has succeeded superbly, if not altogether voluntarily.

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## ■ HOME AFFAIRS

## Hesse poll turns a political fact of life on its head

### DIE ZEIT

**T**he Hesse *Land* election, in which the SPD was voted out, is not a bitter blow for the party just because it had been in power for 40 years. (The CDU and the FDP now have a majority of 54 to 54 over the SPD and the Greens).

For the first time since the Federal Republic was formed after the war, the partners of a ruling coalition government in Bonn have managed to oust an Opposition government in a *Land*.

He is the only prominent SPD politician openly saying that the party must remain open to the Greens.

The Social Democrats and the Greens have taken hard knocks in different ways. The post-mortems are underway. A look at the brief but highly significant history of the Red-Green experiment in Hesse might help.

The government's position in the upper house, the Bundesrat, has been strengthened.

The Opposition parties in Bonn are threatened by a growing process of erosion. This is the end of the road, at least in the meantime, for the Red-Green dream. Both the Greens and the SPD may now find themselves faced by internal conflict and despondency.

The next state elections in which the SPD and Greens stand to suffer further setbacks (as a concerted opposition; the Greens picked up votes in Hesse) are just round the corner: Rhineland-Palatinate and Hamburg (both on 17 May); and Schleswig-Holstein and Bremen (13 September).

Chancellor Kohl's power base now looks even safer. The SPD will have to bury plans gradually to win back a majority in the Bundesrat (through winning *Land* elections) in order to exert more pressure on the government.

But the coalition's majority in the Bundesrat is a comfortable 27 to 14.

The Hesse result has created a strange kind of division of labour, a new federalistic variant.

The *Land* of Hesse was missing in the broad sun-belt of industrially and economically flourishing southern German states under conservative rule — principally Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg.

The SPD has been left with the awkward task of government in the more difficult states: poorhouses such as Bremen and the Saarland as well as North Rhine-Westphalia, which is encumbered by the problems resulting from the era of unbridled industrial expansion.

If this trend towards conservative administrations in the *Land* continues, the CDU, CSU and FDP might even manage to achieve a two-thirds majority in the Bundesrat to complement their comfortable majority in the Bundestag.

Many observers said this would happen immediately after Chancellor Kohl's government first took over power in 1982/83. A meeting of either the Council of Ministers' troika (the immediate past, present and next chairman) or all 12 Community Foreign Ministers with US Secretary of State George Shultz was felt to be advisable so as to avert the risk of fresh trade policy disputes.

The Ministers also reviewed the situation in the Middle East. M. Tindemans said the declaration by the twelve in February in support of a Middle East peace conference with international



After the battle... Hesse winner Walter Wallmann (CDU) at right with defeated SPD opponent Hans-Joachim Schwarz.

(Photo: Sven Simon)

legislative period, however, requires plenty of staying power.

In reality, however, the Social Democrats cannot simply ignore political realities.

The fate of industrial society has changed and the nature of the SPD with it.

In line with its own objectives and in accordance with the expectations of the electorate the party must develop model solutions for a changing society.

First and foremost, his remark was intended to provoke the new government in Bonn.

Second, it provided a ray of hope for the SPD, which at that time feared what has now become reality: a recession.

Third, it was intended as a symbol for a new SPD.

It was only with the help of such non-committal statements and wavering illustrations that the SPD was able to push aside the trauma it now faces.

The SPD's 100-year party-political experience has shown that rival left-wing parties must either be fought, divided, ignored or shaken up.

The Hesse model fitted in with this strategy. The longer the Red-Green experiment lasted, however, the less discernible the meaning and aims of the government led by Holger Börner became.

Minny Social Democrats feel that the loss of Hesse is the electorate's response to Willy Brandt's strategy.

They conclude that the Red-Green adventure was a mistake right from the very start and that the SPD would now be in a much stronger position if it had rejected the idea.

Such considerations generally lead to the realisation that the SPD must now

#### Continued from page 1

ic Cooperation (Comecon) on the basis of future ties.

Heur Genscher agreed with Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans that

relations between the Community and the United States ought not to be left solely to the European Commission.

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participation had triggered a degree of dynamism in the region.

He did not rule out the possibility that he might visit a number of Middle East countries soon at the Community's behest.

On 26 April the European Council

will confer with its (Persian) Gulf states counterpart on the terms of a long-envisioned agreement.

It is seen as being modelled on the European Community's treaty ties with the Asian countries in South-East Asia.

Agreement has been hampered so far by the Gulf states' demand to export petroleum products duty-free to the European Community.

That would inevitably mean further oil refinery closures in Europe.

Erich Hauser

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 April 1987)

It's a near future the fundamentalists

will decide what happens in the party's office decision-making bodies.

This reinforces the impression that the Greens are basically an anti-SPD party.

Rumours of a party split have often circulated. Although things needn't go that far the same effect may come about if Joschka Fischer and other pragmatic Greens resign themselves to their fate.

This trend will be more strongly influenced by facts rather than speeches.

The two state elections in May in the Rhineland-Palatinate and Hamburg will show whether the SPD has recovered from the shock result in Hesse.

Its chances of victory are very slim in Rhineland-Palatinate, but it will pull out all the stops in Hamburg.

For the second time Klaus von Dohnanyi will set out to win the Hamburg election with an absolute SPD majority or via a coalition with the FDP.

The election-weary populace in Hamburg still has to be convinced that such a coalition is a political necessity and not just an SPD survival strategy.

If the SPD loses the election in its former stronghold Hamburg it will then play an almost marginal role in the Bundestag and govern in only three states.

Gerhard Spörle

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 10 April 1987)

## ■ INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## Königswinter conference gets to grips with 'acrid idea of Eurosclerosis'

The preparatory group for the 37th Anglo-German conference at Königswinter showed gifts of prophecy and political instinct in laying down the topics for discussion, which it did about six months ago in London.

The conference was held over the first weekend in April and proved a great success. Immediately after Mrs Thatcher's Moscow visit the one topic, that of a turning-point in US-Soviet relations, was extremely explosive, and not only for British participants.

Thirty years after the signing of the Treaty of Rome the conference analysis of the condition of the European Community centred on the acrid concept of "Eurosclerosis."

Just under a year after the Soviet reactor accident Chernobyl was a third issue that could naturally not be disregarded. Youth and the Future was a final topic, intended as a reminder not to forget the younger generation.

All issues could not, of course, be dealt with anywhere near exhaustively. But, as a British participant put it: "It was important to discuss matters frankly and freely and without pressure in an open atmosphere."

The discussion seems to have been a hammer-and-tongs affair in the working party that discussed the state of the 12-member European Community.

Editor-in-chief Thomas Kielinger of the *Rheinischer Merkur* said in his re-

### General-Anzeiger

port there could be no doubt that the concept of "Eurosclerosis" must be rejected as "defeatist." Yet members (unnamed, in keeping with an unwritten rule) complained that reforms had failed to be carried out. There was still, for instance, no unified internal market.

There were bitter complaints on both sides about Mrs Thatcher for her opposition to the European Monetary System.

The North-South divide in the European Community was found to be "alarming," while Herr Kielinger referred to a "renaissance of narrow-mindedness."

British and German members of the working party were agreed that the German government was largely to blame for what one participant called a "thruwack to the Biedermeier era."

Bonn was felt to adopt too harsh a course toward the European Community, and Jacques Delors' dictum that "Europe is overshadowed by the German Question" went the rounds.

Chancellor Kohl, it was felt, ought to scrap his "sermons to the European Community." As one speaker put it: "Germany seems to want to say that it no longer needs Europe."

Foreign Office state secretary Dr

Jürgen Ruhfus waded in to stem the tide of these complaints. Bonn, he said, was well aware that more must be done for the European Community.

The Chancellor's meeting with the European Commission had been most useful. The Federal Republic had, for instance, been a "driving force" behind European Political Cooperation.

New sectors for integration must be sought, such as in the security sector. The Western European Union was suggested as an instrument.

A coordinated European security policy played a major role in the evaluation of US-Soviet relations. Hella Piek, Bonn correspondent of *The Guardian*, London, referred to an "exciting new dimension of Soviet policy," the quality of which had, however, remained controversial.

How was Europe to respond without provoking a process of decoupling from the United States or promoting tendencies toward American isolationism?

Others in contrast felt young people showed signs of "intellectual pettiness" along the lines of "let's build our own future."

The three days of dialogue and discussion in Königswinter were days spent reappraising the architecture of Mr Gorbachev's "house of Europe." But agreement was neither planned nor, for that matter, felt to be necessarily desirable.

One working party said that if greater headway was to be made in this particular debate Mr Gorbachev himself ought best to be invited to attend the next round of Königswinter talks.

Thomas Winkler  
(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 6 April 1987)

Britain's Ian Smart, coining his group's consensus in the strongest terms, arrived at the formula: "Someone or other really ought to do something."

No consensus was reached on whether the financial burden of phasing out atomic energy ought to be shared. It was also clear that Germans take a more dramatic view of environmental problems than the British.

A British participant reduced the current state of the nuclear debate, in a somewhat cynical report on the last international energy conference, to a striking common denominator.

The conference, he said, had spent an entire day discussing Chernobyl, whereas on a "fragile optimism" had gained currency. A few hundred people would die off consequences in the years ahead, "but a million will die in my case."

Energy policy, he concluded, will continue to rely on nuclear power.

The future of youth, said SPD Baden-Württemberg MP Anke Martin, could not be viewed in isolation. Young people today were a complex phenomenon.

Unemployment threatened to lead to early "resignation" and to feelings of powerlessness and lack of perspective.

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## New policies will help links with West — Soviet envoy

Thirteen German towns have now become twinned with towns in the Soviet Union. But so far, all the Soviet towns are in the European regions. No Siberian or Soviet Asian town is involved. A meeting has been held in Saarbrücken between officials of twinned towns in both countries. There was some political exercising, but not that much. Adolf Müller reports for the *Hannoversche Allgemeine*.

Yuri Kvitsiukov, the Soviet ambassador in Bonn, told delegates at the twin-town meeting in Saarbrücken that Moscow's new policy would give a big impetus to relations with Western countries.

Saar Premier Oskar Lafontaine, a Social Democrat, compared the Bonn government's 1970 Ostpolitik with the Soviet domestic opening. He called for a second phase of detente.

In the final message, both sides emphasised their commitment to detente and disarmament. That ended, for the most part, the politically obligatory exercises.

The Soviet delegation consisted of 44 local politicians, economists and academics from the 13 towns and local authority areas that are twinned with towns in the Federal Republic.

The self-evident answer is to promote Russian as a third modern language taught at schools in the Federal Republic and to encourage school exchange schemes.

The German delegation consisted of Lord Mayors, Mayors, chief clerks and other borough officials. But there seemed to be no threat of officials dis-

covering common interests. Saarbrücken's ties with the Georgian capital, Tiflis, have developed splendidly since the 1970s. Tents for visitors from the Saar capital are usually fully booked long in advance, often previous visitors.

The Georgian hosts are said in Saarbrücken to be indignant at the fewer than 500 visitors from the Saar take part in each tour.

Georgian academics and research scientists work at Saarbrücken University. Artists and drama companies make frequent exchange arrangements.

Now that relations between the Saar and Soviet Georgia are seen to be running smoothly, smaller and medium-sized Saar companies have come to take a more sanguine view of trade ties with East Bloc states.

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The self-evident answer is to promote Russian as a third modern language taught at schools in the Federal Republic and to encourage school exchange schemes.

The way exchange arrangements work is that visitors can pay travel expenses in their own currency and stay-

Continued on page 6

covered

### PERSPECTIVE

## Conflict in the Aegean: no war but a solution is a long way off

### Frankfurter Allgemeine

The next controversy centred around flags. On three consecutive occasions red flags with the Turkish crescent emblem were hoisted overnight on two Greek islands.

At the time nationalist Turkish politicians even considered subjecting certain islands to Turkish sovereignty.

The Turkish government, however, did not heed these demands and even today casts no doubt on Greek territorial sovereignty as laid down in the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne.

The Greeks can claim to have history and international law on their side. The Turks have traditionally been the more powerful disputant.

Greece is in a more vulnerable position. Turkey has a compact land mass, a bigger population and larger armed forces.

The proposals by the Greek prime minister, Andreas Papandreou, to take the Aegean dispute to the International Court, and by the Turkish prime minister, Turgut Ozal, to discuss the delimitation of the continental shelf boundaries on a bilateral basis, correspond to the line of approach pursued by both countries over a decade.

Now that the tension of the latest dispute over oil exploration rights off the Turkish coast has died down both countries find themselves in the same situation as in the mid-seventies, i.e. there is no sign of a political or legal solution, but the danger of war has been averted.

The dispute relates to several problems. First is how to set the boundaries of the Aegean's continental shelf and thus demarcate respective oil exploration areas. This triggered the latest conflict.

A second is the possibility that Greece might extend its territorial waters from six to 12 nautical miles. This would cut off ports in western Turkey and obstruct the passage of Soviet ships from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean.

Airspace rights in the Aegean and the militarisation of the islands in the region are the other main bones of contention.

All these problems are politically connected with the occupation of northern Cyprus by Turkish troops in 1974.

In November 1976 the governments of both countries agreed in Bern, Switzerland, to avoid all action which might impair negotiations on the continental shelf problem. Ankara's recent moves have broken this ten-year "truce".

Georgian academics and research scientists work at Saarbrücken University. Artists and drama companies make frequent exchange arrangements.

Now that relations between the Saar and Soviet Georgia are seen to be running smoothly, smaller and medium-sized Saar companies have come to take a more sanguine view of trade ties with East Bloc states.

Chancellor Kohl, in Bonn, told delegates at the twin-town meeting in Saarbrücken that Moscow's new policy would give a big impetus to relations with Western countries.

In the final message, both sides emphasised their commitment to detente and disarmament. That ended, for the most part, the politically obligatory exercises.

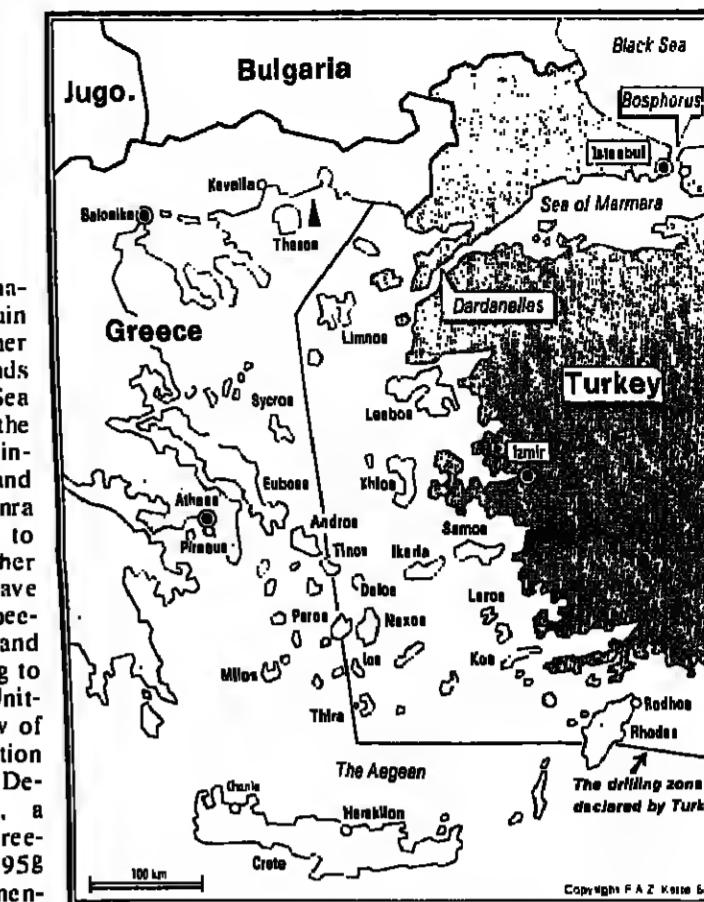
The Soviet delegation consisted of 44 local politicians, economists and academics from the 13 towns and local authority areas that are twinned with towns in the Federal Republic.

The self-evident answer is to promote Russian as a third modern language taught at schools in the Federal Republic and to encourage school exchange schemes.

The way exchange arrangements work is that visitors can pay travel expenses in their own currency and stay-

covered

Continued on page 6



(Map: Sturm/Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

The Aegean's seabed around the 2,463 islands belong to Greece.

The Greek continental shelf and large forms a continuous whole.

In support of its thesis Athens refers to a number of judicial decisions and treaties, claiming that these have become customary international law.

What is more, Athens refers back to history. The entire Aegean region, it claims, has been populated by Greeks for over 3,000 years, a fact which invasions and the almost 500-year occupation of Ottoman rulers have been unable to change.

Aeolians, Ionians and Dorians already settled along the coast of Asia Minor around 1000 BC and were only driven out of this region following Greece's military defeat by Turkey in 1922.

In the Greek soul, says Athens, the Aegean lives on as an Hellenic sea, the sea of the ancient Greek seafarers.

Athens could counter the Turkish argument that, according to Article 6 of the Geneva Continental Shelf Convention, "special circumstances" exist which justify setting a new boundary by pointing out that this Convention was not ratified by Turkey and that Ankara cannot simply cite the Articles which back its own position and disregard the rest.

Finally, Athens could also argue that Ankara did not object to numerous oil-exploration licences issued by the Greek government during the 1960s and has thus, by remaining silent, tacitly supported the Greek position.

Geomorphologically speaking, the islands of the eastern Aegean are situated on the "natural extension" of the Anatolian continental shelf.

The Turks conclude from this fact that any dividing line should not include the islands but should be drawn along the deepest channel in the sea as a median line, that is, equidistant to the coasts of the Greek and Turkish mainland.

The Greek argument, on the other hand, which corresponds to the provisions of the Geneva Convention on this matter, states that almost the whole of

Ankara, therefore, can only hope for a broad interpretation of the term "special circumstances" if the dispute is settled by the International Court of Justice or for a modus of compromise if it is settled via bilateral negotiations with Athens.

Robert von Lüttich  
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung  
für Deutschland, 31 March 1987)

## ■ CIVIL LAW

## Daimler-Benz plans for big road-test area rejected as unconstitutional

A plan by Daimler-Benz to build a huge vehicle proving works near its production plants in Baden-Württemberg has been rejected by the Federal Constitutional Court.

The company, backed by the *Land* government, wanted the development at Boxberg. The court said it was unconstitutional. Strong objections were raised by local farmers, many of whom would have lost land that had been in their families for generations.

The decision indirectly raises another issue — that of the role of state planning procedures. Elected bodies at *Land*, district and local level did not think the matter through. The opposition of farmers was badly underestimated.

Daimler-Benz is a huge company. Its relationship with the government has, by this decision, been brought into question.

The court's decision was unequivocal that the company has decided not to appeal. However, the bench did outline ways in which Daimler-Benz and the Baden-Württemberg government in Stuttgart might still achieve their aim.

The state assembly would have to approve structural improvement and industrial development legislation providing for projects of this kind while remaining compatible with constitutional guarantees of property rights.

The court even went a step further, saying it would be prepared to consider compulsory purchase legislation passed with this project in mind.

Baden-Württemberg Premier Lothar Späth and his CDU Cabinet should, however, not try and pick out in haste what appear to be favourable points in the ruling.

With nothing in its kitbag but a handful of legal ploys the *Land* government might find itself caught in a political quagmire. It is not, after all, just a matter of chance, with families in the host country.

This arrangement is very convenient for Soviet guests, given their country's chronic shortage of foreign exchange.

Yevgeni V. Ivanov, spokesman for the Soviet delegation in Saarbrücken, said tours to the Federal Republic from the Soviet Union might pose certain problems, but he foresaw no difficulties with groups of between 200 and 300.

He was fulsome in his praise of the Saarbrücken gathering. He felt it was a great achievement to have held it at all.

The three-day meeting in the Saar capital marked the beginning of partnership talks in the narrower sense of the term; Soviet delegates then went on to visit prospective twin towns, including four in Baden-Württemberg.

It is worth noting that all Soviet cities and towns that have so far made twinning arrangements with local authorities in the Federal Republic are in the European part of the Soviet Union.

No local authority in the Federal Republic has yet twinned with a town in Siberia or Soviet Asia.

Adolf Müller  
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 3 April 1987)



Stuttgarter Zeitung

Stuttgarter Zeitung

cal building contractors, politicians — at local and *Land* level — were as keen as mustard.

They woefully underestimated organised resistance by local farmers determined to turn down the offer of pieces of silver in compensation for their ancestral fields and meadows.

In a free-market economy there is nothing unusual about a company drawing up plans, naturally in accordance with its own interests, and submitting them to political bodies for approval.

Yet in the case of Mercedes and Baden-Württemberg the financial dimensions are alarming.

Last year Daimler-Benz, with turnover over DM65bn, spent roughly DM5bn on capital investment.

This year the *Land* budget of Baden-Württemberg totals a little over DM40bn, including capital investment of DM5.4bn, or 13.5 per cent of total expenditure.

Those who wonder what freedom of decision a *Land* government can possibly have in dealings with a company of this size can hardly be dismissed as belonging to the loony Left.

Even the Boxberg local government area, definitely a development area by Federal Republic of Germany standards, need not despair.

Other areas would be only too happy to boast unemployment at a mere 6 per cent. Baden-Württemberg may depend on industry for a living, but this doesn't mean the entire state needs to be designated an industrial estate.

Luckily the Federal Republic differs so substantially from Weimar that a throwback is most unlikely. Yet Daimler-Benz, a valued taxpayer, is an indication of how the balance of government

Continued from page 8

free of charge, with families in the host country.

In a separate case, the court gave leave for a lawyer acting for a seven-year-old girl to sue the owner-operator of the Chernobyl plant, the Soviet government.

The girl's lawyer, Alexander Frey, and a radiation biologist, Eckhart H. Krüger, told the court, in Munich, that the government had underestimated the health hazard and had not supplied enough information.

Herr Oermiller's submission states that on 28 April, two days after Chernobyl, the Federal Interior Minister advised *Land* authorities to alarm measurement agencies and instruct them to report any increase in radiation.

Counsel for the plaintiff disputes this claim, saying no evidence has been produced to support it.

Herr Frey also claims the Bonn government failed to set up a crisis staff capable of handling the crisis and coordinating fallout precautions.

Federal Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann, CSU, is to be subpoenaed to give evidence in this connection.

The government's lawyer repeats the argument, first put forward by Herr Zimmermann on television on 29 April 1986, that radiation levels were so low there need be no fears of health hazards.

Herr Frey has submitted measurements taken that same day by the GSF, a Federal government agency.

Proceedings have been adjourned. It remains to be seen when they will be resumed and how long they will take.

Roman Arens

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 April 1987)

ment and economic power could shift to the detriment of democratic society.

Fears have already been voiced in Baden-Württemberg that Daimler-Benz might cancel contracts with local suppliers even though they have nothing to do with whether or not the proving ground is built there.

Daimler-Benz are unlikely to reach such a shortsighted manner. They have plans for further large-scale projects in Rastatt and on Lake Constance, both in Baden-Württemberg, with fierce local opposition in both cases.

Baden-Württemberg has so far been Daimler-Benz proud and not been losing for it. But not everything that is the benefit of the Mercedes star leads to that of Baden-Württemberg, a high-tech state.

That is a point Premier Späth hopefully have borne in mind in his government policy statement in connection with a water-rate law, an environmental protection offence for reconciliation between economy and ecology.

Reports from London say Mrs Thatcher's government is considering imposing sanctions on Japan to exert pressure on Tokyo to allow a British firm access to the Japanese telecom market.

Further examples could readily be cited. Recent exchange rate movements have also been a matter of reducing Japan's trading surpluses by monetary means — at least as the dollar-yen exchange rate is concerned.

Occasional attacks are launched on the Federal Republic of Germany as well as Japan, and the European Community has also come in for criticism. But as a rule Tokyo is pilloried alone.

In part, the Japanese have only themselves to blame. In spite of this, they still suffer from being cast as the scapegoats of the Western economic systems.

When Americans and Western Europeans refer to the "Japanese threat" Japan feels decidedly small and vulnerable in disputes with the United States.

Unlike the European Community

countries, which can lend each other support in the face of outside criticism, Japan is very much on its own.

This painful experience of being isolated in a crisis is one reason why Japan has lately reassessed Western Europe in general and the European Community in particular.

The Japanese note, not without envy, how the Europeans refuse to give in despite their many problems.

Tokyo is impressed by how the Europeans succeed, when they manage to agree among themselves, to resist pressure from the United States.

The Japanese think Western Europe is going through something of a revival, and they are watching with growing fascination. Europe-watching is back in fashion.

That is surprising, because many Japanese had practically written Western Europe off in the early 1980s.

Full of the sensation of their own potential, and obsessed by the belief in economically quantifiable success as the sole serious international yardstick, they dreamed of a Pax Economica to be presided over jointly by Japan and the United States.

The relative importance of the two

continents

## ■ THE HANOVER FAIR

## Record crowds don't always mean record orders, say exhibitors

Record crowds are flocking to the biggest industrial fair in the world, in Hanover.

In the first two days, 96,000 passed through the turnstiles compared with 78,000 in 1986.

In spite of this, there is scepticism about whether this will turn itself into hard business. Many of the 6,000 exhibitors are not optimistic about orders.

Klaus Mürmann, president of the national association of German employers, spoke of "a spring awakening" in his speech at the opening.

A Swiss mechanical engineer, on the other hand, said that people would come away from the Fair "with a black eye," that the coming year would be "bitter."

Economic Affairs Minister Martin Bangemann saw things quite differently at the opening when he said that the economy "was taking a breather."

There is no agreement about the way the economy is developing. Martin Herzog, Economic Affairs Minister in Baden-Württemberg, said that Bangemann's interpretation was "cloudy."

He regarded it as important that employers were taking on staff and that the period of effortless growth was past. He said: "They are fighting back."

Statistics do indeed show that exports are having a difficult time. In February the engineering and plant construction

### STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

sector showed a drop in orders of 11 per cent, export orders fell 25 per cent.

The falling dollar exchange rate is not the only cause of this. A manufacturer of hydraulic equipment said he feared that domestic costs were too high to enable his sector to counter the competition from Italy and Britain.

One company unveiled a vehicle industry-controlled, as if by a ghostly hand, another presented "artificial kidneys," developed over two years, a dialysis machine that can be described as a "complete chemical factory."

It is the first piece of equipment of its kind that has been tested by the Technischer Überwachungsverein (TÜV). It is the first piece of equipment that can do the monitoring itself and switch itself off.

Small and medium-sized firms also seem to have realised that half the way to success is to link up with major firms with their extensive research laboratories and wide-ranging think tanks.

A South German ventilation manufacturer said: "Marketing is essential, then comes research and development. Anyone can handle production."

Find customers is all important for even electronics, obviously, do not sell themselves.

Then prices are being undercut in markets abroad in order to hold on to market shares. One exhibitor put it this way: "The economy is not in the depths, it is just getting tilted a bit."

But many firms cannot repair what is described as "damage to the body work" all that quickly.

After a tour of the firms from Baden-Württemberg, Martin Herzog said that he had not heard anyone say that the economy was going to pieces. Nevertheless forecasts for the rest of the year are far from confident.

The robot business has not done better simply because there are too few skilled operatives and engineers on the labour market.



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## ■ THE PERFORMING ARTS

## Both boos and applause for an artistic parable

**Saarbrücker Zeitung**

Wolfgang Rihm's *Die Hamletmaschine*, a music drama in five parts, to a text by Heiner Müller, was commissioned by the Nationaltheater, Mannheim.

The cream of the music world turned up in Mannheim in force for the premiere, which was bawd a great deal but equally applauded.

*Die Hamletmaschine* is an artistic parable, a political simile, but primarily an end game. It is a work without hope. All is over. In 1977, in fact, it is Müller's last work until now. It is the pinnacle of his achievement in my view.

It was a puzzle of assumptions, only between six to nine pages long.

At first it is incomprehensible. Then read, read, read. Understanding grows and grows. Heiner Müller said: "The members of the audience have to do the interpretation." There are any number of ways of interpreting the work. Each to his own.

There are seven Hamlets and eight Ophelias in Heiner Müller's original production. Rihm stipulates three Hamlets, an old actor (performed by Kurt Müller-Graf), a young Hamlet (Rudolf Kowalski, who also plays Shakespeare's "The Winter's Tale" in Mannheim), and a singer (baritone Johannes M. Kösters) who gives an excellent performance.

The Müller/Rihm Hamlet is a cynical dropout, a spoilsport, who does not want to do anything anymore, loathing the world, loathing himself.

He has a compulsive nostalgia for the end, for the world without mothers.

He proclaims that he is one of the privileged. He claims he is an East (German) intellectual.

This Hamlet says that he stands on both sides in the rebellion, in the revolt, when the Stalin monument tips over time and time again in the Friedrich Meyer-Oertel production in Mannheim.

The rulers exude the stench of their anxiety. There are traces of the sweat of the masses.

One Hamlet would like to be a woman and gets dressed up as Ophelia. He wants to be much, but is nothing at all.

Finally he splits the skull, as a "clown in the communist spring," the three ultra-fathers, Marx, Lenin and Mao, are three naked women.

Hamlet is a figure from the theatre, whose act is no longer played, he functions just a machine from disgust at himself and his own thinking.

A flying-machine is incompetent to lift off the earth — that is also a major director's metaphor.

Hamlet, incompetent to do anything, even to change. Hamlet, who would prefer to return home to his mother's womb. In the end he simply crumples.

Ophelia is quite different. She is the active side. She is the one in revolt. She is the one who calls for action. She has the characteristics of a terrorist, standing up for the down-trodden where possible, women, the Third World.

Ophelia = Elektra = Rosa Luxemburg = Ulrike Meinhof = Susan Atkins of the Charles Manson family, whose

last words were: "If you go through your bedrooms with a kitchen knife you will know the truth."

So the end game-tragedy, the end game-deliverance from a blood-bath.

In the Müller/Rihm piece Ophelia sits in the deep sea, in a wheel-chair, tied-up tightly with gauze bandages.

She is inaudible, without echo, condemned to ineffectiveness. The world goes on living above her.

She bathes the world as well. "I suffocate the world between my thighs, the world that I have given birth to."

But the world also suffocates her. The one without hope is seldom shown as one with a potential for hope.

In Mannheim there was no deep sea, no rubbish and parts of corpses. Instead there is a factory shed, the plane hangar, in whose plainness the end game is teased out to the end, moves closer to Ophelia, encloses her and crushes her. Macabre end of hope despite all.

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She bathes the world as well. "I suffocate the world between my thighs, the world that I have given birth to."

But the world also suffocates her. The one without hope is seldom shown as one with a potential for hope.

In Mannheim there was no deep sea, no rubbish

## ■ THE ENVIRONMENT

### Another warning about the hothouse effect



Climate research scientists again warned the 51st conference of the German Physics Society (DPG) in Berlin of the risk of a hothouse effect in the atmosphere due to the growing output of carbon dioxide and trace gases.

Professor Jochen Fricke of Würzburg University said that if atmospheric levels of these gases continued to increase at their present rate the average atmospheric temperature would increase by between three and nine degrees centigrade in the next 100 years.

Professor Fricke heads the DPG's energy working party. This hothouse effect could, he said, bring about substantial changes in the world's climate.

He feels a reappraisal of energy policy is essential if the hothouse effect is to be forestalled.

No more than one third of the world's fossil fuel reserves must be burnt. Their combustion generates the CO<sub>2</sub> that is mainly to blame for heating the atmosphere.

Other culprits are trace gases such as chlorine and fluorine hydrocarbons used as spray can gas and methane, which is generated from agricultural fertiliser.

The emphasis must be on energy sources such as atomic energy and solar power, neither of which release substances that are harmful to the atmosphere.

He noted that scientists were mainly interested in space systems that could be put in meaningful research use.

If the public had to foot the bill for the harmful consequences of energy production, he told a DPG press conference, fuel and power would prove far more expensive than at present.

DPG president Professor Joachim Trümper feels it is high time politicians tackled the problem, and the sooner the better. In 20 years it will, in all probability, be too late to contain it.

He noted that the DPG had first drawn attention to the CO<sub>2</sub> problem four years ago. But past appeals had met with little response.

Over 1,500 German and Austrian physicists attended the Berlin conference, which dealt mainly with atmos-

pheric research and biophysics. Scientists reviewed the latest developments in plant photosynthesis research.

Professor Walter Junge of Osnabrück University told delegates that scientists were probing the processes by which nature generated energy. Little was known about photosynthesis, by which sunlight was converted into high-energy compounds of organic molecules.

So it would probably be a long time before man could harness the process to generate energy.

Physicists also dealt in numerous lectures and debates, with solar energy, reactor safety, marine technology, laser physics, the didactics of physics, space research and scientific issues relating to the American SDI project.

The annual DPG awards were presented at a special session, with the highest award, the Max Planck Medal, going to Professor Julius Wess, an Austrian who now works at Karlsruhe University.

The award was made in recognition of his contribution toward research into the symmetry of elementary particles.

This work, dating back to the 1970s, has gained international acclaim and led to the enlargement of existing theories in various sectors.

The Max Planck Medal was endowed in 1929 and first awarded to Max Planck and Albert Einstein.

Professor Trümper said all colleagues must feel encouraged by the fact that German physicists had been awarded the Nobel Prize for the past three years.

Yet German physics had maintained high standards in the decades when Nobel Prizes did not come this way. It must now make sure this standard is maintained and improved on.

Professor Trümper, who works at the Max Planck Institute for Extra-Terrestrial Physics near Munich, stressed the high standards of German space research.

He noted that scientists were mainly interested in space systems that could be put in meaningful research use.

Too much must not be invested in mere carrier systems. Funds must also be available for scientific and economic uses, such as observation and communication satellites.

From a scientific viewpoint manned space travel was not absolutely essential. Experience had shown that research into extra-terrestrial physics could be carried out by unmanned systems.

Time — and practical experience in the decades ahead — would tell whether manned or unmanned space research was more important.

Ludwig Kürten  
(Die Welt, Bonn, 2 April 1987)

Stephan Hoffmann  
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 21 March 1987)

## Data bank to help in mopping up chemical, toxic spillages

Frankfurter Allgemeine

An electronic brain at the Environmental Protection Agency in Berlin is being fed with data to supply police, fire brigade and other rescue workers at the scene of an accident with an emergency briefing on chemicals and harmful substances.

It will be part of the information system for environmental chemicals, chemical plant and accidents being set up in Berlin to provide instant information on hazardous goods and substances.

When accidents or disasters occur it is essential to know within the first half hour what substances are involved, how dangerous they are and how to handle them.

Professional city fire brigades are usually well equipped with computer terminals at which they can retrieve information from specialised data banks.

In a test run simple devices are first to be installed countrywide to enable emergency services to call on round-the-clock information from a central computer at the Environmental Protection Agency.

The computer listing includes the name of the substance, its danger rating, transport regulations, appearance, behaviour in air and water, health hazard, security measures, first aid procedures and how to deal with the consequences of an accident.

The system is initially designed for first aid to the injured at the scene of the accident, but its data will also be useful in subsequent environmental measures when more detailed scientific information is needed about the most important chemicals.

Professor Jürgen Seggelke, EPA head

Continued from page 11

eyes of the taxman. It is impossible to classify it as an instrument for use or a valuable work of art. Or perhaps it is possible to do that.

Violin insurance can be set off against tax liability, but not the violin itself, even for a professional violinist.

Tax officials have answered the question whether the violin is or is not a work of art with a definite yes.

Stephan Hoffmann  
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 1 April 1987)

of department in charge of the project suggested on unveiling the system in Bonn that the growing number of personal computers in the public service, industry and private homes might be linked to data networks and fitted out with a "disaster key."

In the event of an accident any personal computer would then have access to essential information.

Starting next winter a smog early warning system will be set up by the Standing Conference of Environmental Ministers and set up by the Berlin EPA will go into operation.

As 50 per cent of atmospheric toxins and often more, are from other countries, especially from the East, measuring stations near the border are particularly important as part of the atmospheric measurement network maintained by the Federal government and the Länder.

Aircraft are to fly sorties when required, weather permitting, at various altitudes to take measurements and identify approaching toxic clouds.

The data they record, relayed to ground stations and computers, will be compared with and added to readings from the Länder, which are to be supplied with extra equipment.

Results will be flashed back to the Länder within an hour for them to determine a smog emergency if need be.

The central EPA computer will also house a smog data bank from which a smog chart of the Federal Republic is compiled.

Mathematical models are also to be used to predict trends and make smog forecasts.

As the use of data banks still leaves much to be desired, the EPA's environmental planning and information system has devised a "shell" model for various user groups.

Since mid-1981, it has facilitated a simple dialogue and the number of users has increased more than tenfold. A simple graphic dialogue is envisaged for the smog early warning system.

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## ■ MEDICINE

### Trade fair unveils new gadgetry for doctors

DER TAGESPIEGEL

An electrocardiogram at the doctor's can take a long time if the preliminary consultation and waiting time are included.

In the research and technology hall at this year's Hanover Industrial Fair it took little longer than the act of sitting down. Seconds later, visitors saw their ECG ratings on the monitor screen.

A doctor tore off a printout, a strip of graph paper, from the device and handed it over as a souvenir.

Professor Franz Bender of Münster University medical faculty demonstrated with this simple yet surprising device that technological aids for doctor and patient need not always be complex.

His invention, devised in collaboration with a physicist, is basically an almost self-evident simplification. In touching the steel arms of the chair the patient relays his ECG readings to the monitor, which is a conventional ECG unit.

So the doctor can see and analyse a cardiac rhythm irregularity while talking with the patient.

He can do so almost unnoticed, using infra-red controls to operate the monitor and the ECG plotter.

The patient can look at his own ECG on the monitor screen before it is printed out.

The procedure will save both doctor and patient time-wasting and often expensive procedures.

Continued from page 10

piano passages. It is music that omittangles, that grabs, expressive, explosive, certainly not yielding.

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Mathematical models are also to be used to predict trends and make smog forecasts.

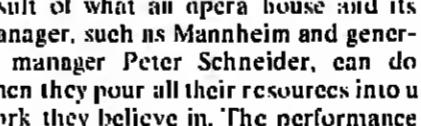
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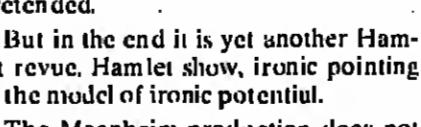
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Doctors are not alone in realising that conventional X-ray exposures can be difficult to read unless they are enlarged; patients are also aware of the fact — once a mistaken diagnosis has been made.

In the materials testing laboratory a new X-ray tube developed by Fein-Föhrer has been tried and tested. It is the first cathode-ray tube of its kind that can be used for direct and powerful X-ray enlargements.

At Hanover the Münster University medical faculty exhibited initial experiments with X-ray enlargements of the human auditory ossicle.

It was the first time anatomical structures had been clearly recognisable when enlarged more than sixtyfold. Conventional X-ray enlargements are blurred by the time they reach this power of magnification.

The new high-grade enlargements make it possible to X-ray the smallest portions of bone in hand and finger joints. The technique could prove a new and promising diagnostic aid.

Users are at present being probed by a Münster University working party including radiologists, surgeons, orthopaedic specialists, pathologists and ear, nose and throat doctors.

Following research into the technique's uses in experimental and clinical medicine the new X-ray enlargement process is now being checked to see what use it might be in biology and palaeontology.

From cardiac checks on roughly 20,000 patients in Westphalia and the Ruhr research staff at Münster University departments of arteriosclerosis research, clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine have devised new and practice-related heart risk early-warning concepts.

It can be used to merge two cells of different size and character under the microscope. Cell membranes melt after a few impulses of the laser beam and the two cells are fused into one.

The Heidelberg biomedics hope this process will one day enable them to produce antibodies in bulk. The lymphatic cells of a mouse immunised with an antigen are known to produce antibodies and to no longer suffer from serious malignant complaints.

"They have all gone back to work, which cannot be said of three other patients identified as AIDS victims at the same time but not treated to this way."

It is not yet clear whether the vaccine improves the skin cancer, known as the Kaposi's sarcoma, from which many AIDS victims suffer and die. "A final opinion is not yet possible," the medical journal concludes, "on the extent to which the Kaposi's sarcoma is influenced."

(Böecker Nachrichten, 27 March 1987)

## Hope for AIDS vaccine reported

Doctors at Düsseldorf University Hospital report initial success in fighting AIDS. A serum gained from patients' own blood cells has helped 14 of them to recover sufficiently to go back to work.

The *Deutsches Ärzteblatt*, an official medical journal, printed a report at the end of March. It was the first public mention of the new AIDS vaccine.

## ■ RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

## Author argues that the Romans, not the Jews, killed Christ

**DIE ZEIT**

**M**any Christian bookshops are refusing to stock a book by a Freiburg lawyer, Weddige Fricke: they are afraid that it will lose them customers.

Fricke's book, *Standrechtlich gekreuzigt. Der Prozess Jesu* (Summary execution. The trial of Jesus) takes traditional beliefs about the crucifixion and turns them on their heads.

Fricke is a layman but an experienced defense counsel. He uses modern language to put his case: that it was the Romans and not the Jews who tried, sentenced and executed Jesus Christ.

He has spent six years using his legal training and instincts to tear away what he regards as a fabric of historical errors.

It is strange that this is the first time that any legal expert from any Christian culture has tackled this sensitive topic. One would have thought that they would be ideal for the task.

The life and crucifixion of Jesus Christ has largely remained the preserve of the theologians, and they have made sure for about 1,950 years that their own faith and churches have gained by their findings.

Historical truth lies, finds Fricke, either "consciously" or "unconsciously", taken back seat to these ideological priorities. This use of history began at the beginning, when Matthew, Mark, Luke and John wrote the Gospels. The Apostles continued it and so did the early elders of the Christian church.

This process of pretotyping the life and works of Christ went so far that in the 19th century, a great many scientists actually assumed that Christ was not a historical figure.

But today it is these very inconsistencies in the gospels which indicate that Christ was also resistance fighters. In the hurry of the trial, Pilate was not interested in the fact that Jesus had everywhere preached peace. Such fiddling details were not relevant in dealing with enemies of Caesar.

So what drove a busy lawyer to write such a book? In the 1970s, Fricke defended an apparently respected member of the community, a locksmith, who shot eight Jews for no reason in a concentration camp in 1942.

The man was jailed for life and the case caused the lawyer to think about why it had happened, why a man could commit such a crime with the connivance and even approval of the State and society.

He began investigating anti-Semitism, which he calls anti-Judaism, and his path led back to the very beginnings, to the authors of the New Testament.

Here the idea developed about the guilt of the Jews for the death of Christ. Matthew, for example, wrote about the Jews cursing themselves for his death. Fricke says the gospels all have a strong general anti-Jewish attitude.

And so, he deduces, Christians everywhere have ever since had their basis for the persecution of Jews, a persecution that sometimes spilled over into killing.

He points out that even after the mass murder of the Third Reich, the churches have moved only half-heartedly away from this stance.

Fricke's idea is not new. For a long time, they have been suggested by a few historians and theologians. What is new is Fricke's hard line of reasoning, his audacious exposition of the historical "atrocities".

Also new is his line of attack as a legal historian, his sharp penetration of the inconsistencies.

Then he documented in great detail how Jesus was murdered not by the Jews but by the Romans. Pontius Pilate was no mild Roman procurator but a cruel despot who the Jews despised and hated.

The crucifixion was a typical Roman form of capital punishment, not a Jewish one.

Christ was falsely tried in a summary hearing by Pilate as an agitator, as an enemy of the Roman State, and afterwards executed. The torture of the slow death was a taken-for-granted additional punishment.

It was not highest Jewish body, the Sanhedrin, which sentenced and executed Jesus, although it was within its powers to do so. It was Pontius Pilate, acting on his own authority, says the book.

Fricke says there are no known cases where a case being handled by the Jews was taken over by the Romans. The occupying power did not mix in the internal and religious doings of the occupied land.

But the Romans had become aware of Jesus because of his spectacular entry into Jerusalem, which caused a highly visible sensation.

Jesus came from the rebellious Galilee, an area which tended to favour violence against the Romans. So the religious zealots were also regarded by the Romans as possible agitators as well.

Terrorism was something the Romans had to face almost everywhere they had conquered.

Again in contradiction of Jewish law, Jesus was sentenced because of an allegation not subject to a proper charge or substantiated by witnesses. Yet here supposedly is the allegation instead he levelled by the president of the court during the hearing.

Jesus' admission was also too weak to stand up according to Jewish law. In contrast to Roman law, two witnesses were required to support a charge of heresy.

It was untrue, says Fricke, what many theologians say: that the Jews had cleverly let the original charge — offences against religious law — drop and

**Continued from page 7**  
ed by process heat from nuclear reactors.

Soviet research engineers and scientists will unquestionably have devised and tested components of their own, so the high-temperature reactor project is a text-book example of a promising East-West joint venture.

The Soviet Union would need to invest heavily in reactor construction and supplies, so the cost to the West could be limited.

Soviet Union obsession of not spending a penny in foreign exchange unless absolutely necessary has almost gained the status of a Leninist dogma.

He points out that even after the mass murder of the Third Reich, the churches have moved only half-heartedly away from this stance.

Jesus became a *Leitfigur* for anti-Semitism and a symbol of damnation. What role the Jewish authorities played in all this is not easy to see, says Fricke. He says it is possible that they might have made a small contribution to try and obtain some political peace in the region. But the murderer itself was a Roman doing, says Fricke. A proper formal court trial before the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem never took place: nowhere apart from the gospels is

a double Jewish-Roman hearing of this sort mentioned, although it would have been a sensational exception — and therefore something that one would expect to be written about.

Trials on holy days were banned under Judaism. But Jesus' trial was, according to the evidence, on Passover Seder. Jewish trials were also supposed to be held only during the day. Yet Jesus is said to have been at night.

Neither was the trial a public one, as laid down — instead he is supposed to have been tried in a private house of the high priest. Neither was the sentence made public the following day as required.

The gospels appear to have been written as the Christian sect — in the first generation a purely Jewish sect — broke away from Judaism and, in doing so, came into conflict. Fricke writes: "All the gospels have a general and strong anti-Jewish attitude."

The so-called Hellenic school is regarded by St Paul as the upper hand.

After the victory of Rome over the rebelling Israel in AD70, which was tragic for the Jews, the Christian faith founders, the Nazareans, lost their influence.

The Christians who had left Israel took the side of the Romans. They had no chance for their own faith if the own founders were to continue to be regarded as an agitator and enemy of the state and who, for these reasons, had been excommunicated.

Fricke writes: "Jesus stood loyal to Rome, and so do we."

And so, he concludes, the Jews have artificially been made an enemy of Christendom because they are the enemies of Rome.

The mistake lies in today, Fricke says. At the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic Church first took a step away from the term "God murder", but it did so only with great coyness.

Fricke quotes Jewish theologian Pinhas Lapide, who says that anybody who has read the many Papal Bulls and church documents on the subject and the references to "hordes of God-murdering Jews", and of "the defined sets of God murderers", and of "Cain, the

**Continued on page 15**



Albrecht Dürer's portrayal of Pontius Pilate showing a tortured Jesus to the Jews.

Phone catalog

allow in its place a political charge to be levelled.

The aim of this tactic is said to have been to get the trial turned over to the Romans. Fricke says the Pilate had Jesus sentenced of his own will and under Roman powers. The sentence and execution was a Roman affair.

So how is it that these mistakes have been made? How is it that the Romans were exonerated to the disadvantage of the Jews by the early Christian chroniclers? Fricke makes a plausible case that the Jews' role was invented to make Christianity acceptable to the Romans.

The gospels appear to have been written as the Christian sect — in the first generation a purely Jewish sect — broke away from Judaism and, in doing so, came into conflict. Fricke writes: "All the gospels have a general and strong anti-Jewish attitude."

Small businesses did not have a very high opinion of lawyers either, and gave the legal profession a wide berth.

Generally speaking, doctors had a "horror" of lawyers and engineers and architects had an "aversion" to them. The view of these professional people was that dealings with lawyers did more harm than good.

Tenants are "helplessly stood up against the wall" when lawyers are brought in. Others complained that the legal way of thinking was quite foreign to them as was their habit of wanting to justify everything.

The lawyers job is to argue, to intrude into a dispute as a threat, or to see a case through the courts. This was usually not the right way to solve a problem.

Disagreements in personal relationships with partners, between friends, acquaintances and neighbours are best solved without resorting to the law.

The view is generally held that law-

No. 1270 - 19 April 1987

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

## ■ SOCIETY

## Lawyers try to improve public image of being litigation-happy scoundrels

yers do with their clients just what they like.

The two public opinion research organisations believe that the disturbing image of the legal profession is based on "subliminal anxiety" and rarely on direct experience.

Banks and commercial companies regard lawyers as "arrogant and blustering, rude and anonymous." Bankers and businessmen clients are howled over by the intimidatory methods lawyers apply when sitting with them to go over problems.

To try and polish this tawdry image, the West German law society has turned to the pollsters for assistance.

The lawyers and the Justice Ministry have asked Prognos in Basle and Infratest in Munich to conduct a study of what the public requires from lawyers. They are anxious to see justice done — to themselves.

There are 50,000 lawyers in this country. Every year 2,000 join the profession.

The survey covered 70 legal experts, 1,983 ordinary citizens and 501 veterans of dealing with the law from organisations and companies. What they had to say knocked the lawyers' image sideways.

Lawyers make their clients uneasy when clients visit them with the lawyer sitting in a comfortable chair on the other side of a huge desk with the client sitting hunched in front of him. This results in an atmosphere in which the client dare not ask what his or her legal position actually is.

Just like a general practitioner a lawyer is expected to cover a vast range of legal matters for organisations and medium-sized companies — environmental protection and labour legislation, company statutes, social welfare rights, data information protection and company re-organisation.

To cover all this lawyers have to take to their heels, get out of their offices and take part in specialist meetings and conferences.

In the long-term the only way to improve the public image of lawyers in the view of experts and the law society is to have better-qualified lawyers and given them more specialised training. There should also be an alteration in the state's regulations governing lawyers.

In the short-term a change in the public attitude can only be achieved by lawyers themselves seeing things differently.

Munich lawyer Hasso Hübner, who initiated the survey, said: "We should not only be surgeons but also general practitioners, who can in addition recommend preventive treatment."

*Christina Freitag*  
(Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 21 March 1987)

**Continued from page 14**  
type of the bloodthirsty Jews", would find the Catholic church's reticence difficult to understand.

He says that nothing less is expected from them than an unambiguous judgment about "the oldest and unfairest weapon in the arsenal of religious Jewish hate."

An ironic footnote confirmed by Fricke: when in 1972 an Israeli citizen wanted to reopen the case of Jesus before Israel's highest court, Judge Berenson rejected the petition, saying his court had no jurisdiction.

It was not a matter for Israeli courts. The applicant should apply to the courts of the successor nation of the Roman empire. That is, an Italian court.

*Hanno Kühnert*  
(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 1 April 1987)

He spent a lot of time taking a closer look at 15 out of every 100 of the handwriting samples because they did not adhere to the norm. Ninety per cent of his findings proved to be correct.

The recruits whose handwriting was examined knew nothing about the subsidiary activities of their commander nor were they informed about his examinations of their handwriting.

Is that permitted? Holsträter said: "I don't care a damn about regulations, I don't see any legal difficulties. The results are not phoned on file."

But Birwin Holsträter, as battalion commander, also has to assess candidates for officer training. He uses his handwriting psychology knowledge here too. He admitted that he examined the handwriting of candidates being selected for officer courses.

Most soldiers decide in the first six months if they want to go on to become officers or not. It is possible, then, to assess the current view that the young men wrote on the first day they were in the Bundeswehr, the army.

What does the Defence Ministry in Bonn have to say about this? A spokesman told *Hamburger Abendblatt*: "The matter in Münster is a private initiative of the commander himself. The Bundeswehr has not trained him in handwriting psychology. There is no regulation, however, that prohibits him pursuing this hobby."

As regards the secret examinations of handwriting the spokesman said that the Ministry was amazed to hear of this.

In April Lt-Colonel is to be transferred, for the ninth time, to the army office in Cologne. It is his turn to serve there.

He will not have any opportunities to assess handwriting there. He said: "Unfortunately I shall not have anything to do with conscripts in my new job."

*Stefan Anker*  
(Hamburger Abendblatt, 11 March 1987)

## Officer analyses recruits' handwriting

from depression or have anxieties, and whether they are brutal and aggressive.

"More than once I have discovered young soldiers who suffer from melancholia," the colonel said. If people classified as melancholics were picked on too much, their suicidal tendencies could develop.

How can the commander help? He talks to the group leaders of the recruits concerned. He said that weak and anxious characters should not be dealt with so roughly as the others and they should be praised from time to time. Recruits Holsträter finds to be aggressive are put with various group leaders "so that they can handle them."

Birwin Holsträter began his handwriting examinations four years ago — more by accident than anything else. His wife had had to change homes eight times over the past 16 years because of her husband's postings.

The colonel said: "She wanted to do something that had nothing to do with the posting."

Wife Hannelore Holsträter, 38, enrolled for a correspondence course on handwriting psychology at a Celle school. Lt-Colonel Holsträter also took an interest. Last November he completed his training in handwriting psychology and is now a qualified handwriting psychologist.

During his studies Holsträter examined the handwriting of 700 of his recruits for up to 300 characteristics.

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